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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/801,340	03/07/2001	Don M. Simpson	STL920000077US1	4769

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CAM LINH T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

DATE MAILED: 02/04/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/801,340

Applicant(s)

SIMPSON ET AL.

Examiner

CamLinh Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 – 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Oyanagi et al (U.S. 4,815,005).

♦ As per claim 1, 13,

Oyanagi et al (U.S. 4,815,005) discloses a method for identifying objects referenced in a stream of text, comprising:

- Receiving an incoming stream of text comprised of words” See col. 5, lines 3 – 5. “ An incoming stream of text” corresponds to the question/query that comprises plurality of words
- “Consulting a semantic network to automatically identifying one or more word patterns in the incoming stream of text with a single examination of each word” See col. 5, lines 5 – 8. Oyanagi teaches that the word patterns “CLYDE – object” or “NEST1- value” are identified. The examination is completed in one circle (col. 5, lines 11 – 13.)
- “Referencing a known object identified by word pattern of the semantic network” See col. 5, lines 8 – 11, 14 – 28.

♦ As per claim 2, 14,

- "Loading the semantic network substantially entirely into RAM memory of a processor" See Fig. 1, element 10, col. 3, lines 44 – 46, col. 4, lines 34 – 42. Oyanagi implements the semantic network in a memory that can be accessed and executed; therefore, the "RAM" is inherent in this memory.
- ♦ As per claim 3, 6 – 8, 15, 18 – 20,
 - "Dividing the stream of text into a plurality of threads and conducting the step of consulting ... word patterns". Referring to col. 5, lines 44 – col. 6, lines 23, Oyanagi teaches that a plurality of processing are executed. At least two processes are executed in parallel (memory 14, and 20, col. 4, lines 60 – 61.) While the main memory searches for the object- values, the sub memory searches attributes that are not stored in main memory (col. 4, lines 45 – 48).
- ♦ As per claim 4, 16,
 - "Consulting a semantic network of recognized words and patterns of words in a hierarchical order moving from identified nodes to related nodes linked with the identified nodes" See Fig. 2, col. 4, lines 7 – 15.
- ♦ As per claim 5, 17,
 - "Examining words in the stream of text in a sequential order as the words are received" See col. 2, lines 3 – 8.
- ♦ As per claim 9 – 11, 21 – 22,
 - "Presenting the identified known objects to a user" See col. 6, lines 66 – col.7, lines 3.

- "Providing links between identified word patterns" See Fig. 2.

♦ As per claim 12,

Claim 12 is rejected based on the rejections of claims 1 – 11.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 - 22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Ohira et al (U.S. 4,931,935) discloses a user interface system for permitting natural language interaction with an information retrieval system.
- Oyanagi et al (U.S. 4,982,340) discloses a plural processor inferencing system and method.
- Bergan et al (U.S. 2002/0013793) discloses a fractal semantic network generator.
- Herbert Roitblat (U.S. 6,189,002) discloses a process and system for retrieval of documents using context relevant semantic profiles.
- Vladimir Kulyukin (U.S. 6,523,029) discloses a system and method for embedded information retrieval in a distributed free text application environment.

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam-Linh T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305- 1951. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (703) 308- 1436. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703- 746- 7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703- 305- 3900.

Cam-Linh Nguyen
Art Unit 2171

LN


WAYNE AMSBURY
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER